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For Immediate Release  
March 23, 2005

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## **Sen. George welcomes parents of Kevin Heisinger to 'Kevin's Law' ceremonial bill signing**

**Who:** Sen. Tom George, R-Texas Township; Kimberly McKenna; and Charles and Francine Heisinger

**What:** "Kevin's Law" ceremonial bill signing

**When:** Thursday, March 24, 2005  
8:45 a.m.

**Where:** Governor's Capitol Office

**Briefing:** The parents of Kevin Heisinger will be available after the ceremonial bill signing for comments regarding the law named after their son.

"Kevin's Law" creates an outpatient treatment pathway as an alternative to hospitalization for individuals with severe mental illness. Left untreated, the severely mentally ill often end up homeless or incarcerated.

The legislation was introduced in response to the 2000 beating death of Kevin Heisinger in the Kalamazoo bus/train station by a person with severe a mental illness who was not compliant with treatment. Kevin's Law would safeguard the public by allowing family members and others to intervene to help secure needed treatment for individuals with mental illness before they become a danger to themselves or others.

The law goes into effect March 30.

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